



News From

JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, March 21, 2000

MAKING THE GENESEE RIVER CLEANER NETS AWARD FOR COUNTY

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today announced that the Department of Environmental Services (DES) recently received the "Project of the Year" award by the New York Chapter of the American Public Works Association for the Gates-Chili-Ogden (GCO) Pump Station & Force Main Project. The project, which ended a source of pollution into the Genesee River, was honored in the category, "Outstanding Environmental Project Over \$10 Million."

"I am extremely pleased that we were able to eliminate the discharge of wastewater into the Genesee River," said Doyle. "Protecting the environment is an issue I take very seriously and I am proud to accept this award on behalf of our environmentally-conscious community."

In 1995, DES looked for an alternative to spending millions of dollars on needed upgrades to the GCO Wastewater Treatment Facility. The aging plant (located adjacent to the Greater Rochester International Airport) was the only county-operated facility that released treated wastewater into the Genesee River. DES decided on a three-year, \$13.5 million construction project that, in December of 1998, allowed all wastewater flow to the GCO plant to be diverted and the plant shut down.

DES accomplished the plant diversion by building an underground sewage pumping station at the plant and installing 3.5 miles of large piping (force main) to convey the GCO Sewer District wastewater to the County's large and modern Frank E. VanLare Wastewater Treatment Facility on Lake Ontario.

The project was complex in that the force main's path was studded with 18 recorded archeological sites, protected wetlands, the Erie Canal and an historic pedestrian bridge. Construction methods were engineered and used to protect

-more-

these sensitive areas while diverting all the treated wastewater into the river.

“This project improved the Genesee River environment,” said John Graham, director, DES. “In addition, it also provided a 10-foot-wide, newly paved and extended walkway atop the force main route. This walkway follows an abandoned railway and the Genesee Valley Greenway—extending this recreational resource by over two miles.”

Other companies involved with the project included O’Brien & Gere Engineers, Camp Dresser & McKee Engineers, Bell Civil, Inc., MacDonald Electric and the Leo J. Roth Corporation.

#

*For further information, call:
Communications at 428-2380
See us on the web at www.co.monroe.ny.us*